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APRIL, 1916

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The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association

One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 7

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, APRIL, 1916

No. 10

The Coming Rose Show



IN the name of Progress, let us be thankful that it is no longer necessary to apologize for holding a Rose Show, as was almost the case when the San Diego Floral Association started out nearly a decade ago to make such an annual feature; but the popularity of such events is still far from the flood mark. It will be of interest to see by the attendance at the coming show, to be held April 27 and 28 at the Maryland Hotel, whether the wave of activity in gardens and their care, that has covered the east as with a sweet garment, has really reached our city.

The manager of the Hotel Maryland, Mr. Omer Lilly, has exhibited an unprecedented sympathy with a mere flower show and expressed it by offers of material assistance that cannot have been imbibed in his former environment, and if there were not a thousand other sufficient reasons, every flower lover should put forward the greatest possible effort to make this the best ever to show appreciation.

We are going to mess up that man's hotel quite considerable; we shall bother him and all his staff, spill water on his floors, possibly drive tacks surreptitiously, get in the way of his boys and guests, and try his gentle soul for three days, but if he can stand the strain and grin, he wins a thousand friends and puts a memory of loveliness in the early record of his hostility, the sweet savor of which shall cheer him when the tourists cease from troubling and the weary don't seek rest.

This is going to be a free show. Visitors will have a chance to join the order and subscribe to this paper, but it won't make any difference if they don't want to, except they will miss a chance of letting their good works smell sweetly in the land that God has given them to cultivate, and the method thereof is monthly set forth in this magazine.

San Diego owes it to its floral association to attend this Rose show. All through

last year, time after time, the Floral Association went up to the Exposition and worked like beavers, beside being at considerable expense to make events there. They grinned and submitted to the intricate and bothersome transfer system which was certainly modified as far as possible for their benefit, but they were pretty badly submerged and many a one, both within and without the fold, sighed for a return to something of their own. Here it is and the Exposition will be expected to help the Association as the Association helped it.

We would like to give prizes but we hate to beg them and that is the only way unless the millenium is approaching and volunteer donors should come forward. This must not be taken to mean that requests for donations in the past have failed of generous response, for very much the contrary is the fact; but it is pretty hard to get committees to go round begging for anything when the generosity of the community has been so strained as lately, and so much practice in hard luck stories has been had. We have dwelt upon the remarkable proffering of assistance by the Maryland Hotel; perhaps next month we may be able to be amazed at the number and value of prizes freely offered. The Floral Association is waiting to be not simply amazed but astounded.



THE March number was unconscionably late in getting out. We are sorry, but cannot apologize; all the workers have to live by other means and they do their best. Further we have never had a date of issuance, well knowing the extreme folly of such a course. The reason we mention this at all is that an out-of-town subscriber wrote in a horrible panic; he thought we had suspended publication. But his copy passed his letter in the mails and we have personally written him that our bad luck still holds and we see no present relief. Oh that we could have a vacation and run for congress on any old ticket; in our younger days we were some sprinter.

Premium List of the 8th Spring Rose Show

CLASS 1.—FOR AMATEURS.

1. Best Collection of Roses—not less than 12 varieties and not over three flowers of a kind (to be plainly labeled).
2. Best Collection of six varieties of Roses—not over three of a kind.
3. Best six White Roses of one variety.
4. Best six Pink Roses of one variety.
5. Best six Red Roses of one variety.
6. Best six Yellow Roses of one variety.
7. Best six of Shaded Yellow Roses.
8. Best Six Shaded Pink Roses.
9. Best Arranged Basket of Roses by any amateur (medium sized basket.)
10. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers other than roses.
11. Best Arranged Basket of Wild Flowers.
12. Best Arrangement of Flowers in bowl, vase or dish.
13. Best Display of Bulb Flowers.
14. Best Display of Pansies
15. Best Display of Wild Flowers by individual.
16. Best Display of Wild Flowers by any school in the county.
17. Best Display of Cut Flowers, Plants and Vegetables from a child's garden.
18. Best Display of Annuals.
19. Best Flowering Plant for the house.
20. Best individual Specimen of Decorative Plant.
21. Best one Rose, any variety exhibited singly in this class.
22. Best Display from a 50-foot lot.
23. Best Display from Private Garden larger than 50-foot lot.
24. Best Collection of Flowers grown by any one public school.
25. Best San Diego County Seedling Rose.
26. Best Table Decoration with Roses, each table to be a different Rose. Selection by the exhibitor in order of entry. An early entry gives choice. Communicate with Miss Rainford regarding this feature.
27. Best Table Decoration, other than Roses, limited to six tables. Each table different flower. Selection by exhibitor in order of entry. An early entry gives choice.

CLASS 2.—FOR PROFESSIONALS.

28. Best Collection of Twenty-five Varieties of Roses—not less than three nor more than six of each kind.
29. Best Twelve Red Roses of one variety.
30. Best Twelve Yellow Roses of one variety.
31. Best Twelve Pink Roses of one variety.
32. Best Twelve White Roses of one variety.
33. Best Twelve Yellow Shaded Roses.
34. Best Twelve Shaded Pink Roses.
35. Handsomest Vase of Roses—not over twenty-five blooms.

36. Best Rose never before exhibited in San Diego.

37. Best Exhibit of Cut Ornamental Vines.

38. Best Display Seasonal Nursery Stock, either cut or growing.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Plants offered for competition must have been the property of the exhibitor at least three months.

Cut flowers exhibited shall, as far as possible, be accompanied by some of their foliage and buds. The committee will welcome exhibits, however small, even a single specimen, if meritorious.

In those classes where color is specified, color is the first consideration.

The Committee on Awards is authorized to recognize any meritorious exhibit not named on the premium list.

No prize shall be awarded for any article on exhibition unless it possesses points of superiority.

In no case can any article placed on exhibition be removed until after the close of the show.

Any plant placed in a collection competing for a certain premium shall not compete for any other premium.

Awards will be decided on the first day, and announced as soon as possible.

No premiums will be given to competitors failing to keep up their exhibits.

For the protection of property, exhibitors will not be allowed to dispose of cut flowers or plants until the official close of the exhibition.

Exhibits are not confined to members of the Association—any one may exhibit—but it is hoped every exhibitor will become a member.

Exhibits must be in place not later than noon Thursday, April 27, when the judges will begin to award the prizes.

A clerk will be at the hall to make entries all Thursday morning.

DIRECTIONS FOR BRINGING ROSES TO THE SHOW

Flowers should be cut the night before rather close and put in water over night—or cut very early in the morning and stood in water for an hour.

Then they must be carefully packed in shallow paper or wooden boxes, which have been lined with damp newspapers.

Do not crowd the flowers into boxes, and be careful that the ends of buds do not touch the box. Make an effort to fasten flowers in the box so they will not slip. Take a coarse stitch with twine through bottom of box or nail a brace in the wooden box to hold the contents firm. If large sprays and branches of roses are gathered they should be sprinkled and damp paper laid between each branch.

Irrigation vs. Sprinkling

By I. A. BLOCHMAN



THE time has now arrived when we begin to think again about watering our lawns and our gardens. We have been taking it rather easy the last few months and turned over the major portion of our irrigating to Jupiter Pluvius, whom we can generally trust to do a better and more thorough job than we do.

The ground is still well charged with moisture, and with the light showers we may expect in April, together with our cloudy May weather, should carry us well into June with little water. That is, provided we conserve what water is already in the ground. This we may do with proper cultivation. The ground, after cultivation, should be well raked on the surface. By keeping the surface loose the moisture will not come to the top by capillary attraction, and thus dry out. Also the loose covering of earth forms an air filled blanket that prevents the hot sun from drying out the underlying earth.

By judiciously irrigating and cultivating we will get good results with one-half the water that most of us generally use. Firstly learn to **irrigate**, not **sprinkle**. A little water sprinkled on the surface of the soil actually does more harm than good. The soil is hardened and baked and draws the underlying moisture to the surface, in turn to be evaporated. The roots are taught to grow near the top of the soil to get their nourishment. Furthermore it means constantly and daily going over the whole garden with the hose to keep things alive. Then when we are sprinkling we can do nothing else. On the contrary when we irrigate, the hose is allowed to run unattended while we are digging or pruning somewhere else.

There are several methods of irrigating. One favorite method is to remove the soil from around a shrub, tree or plant, forming a basin and allow the ground to soak well in all directions. After the ground has dried a little the soil is put back and raked up, or a little mulching of dried leaves, lawn trimmings or finely pulverized, well-rotted manure may be raked in. This will help retain the moisture and protect the roots from the scorching sun.

When using this method on ground with a slope, the basin should be made above the plant, as the water will find its way to the plant by gravity.

Another favorite method of irrigation is by making a ditch with a hoe. This method

is especially useful where plants are planted in rows, but the ditch may be zigzagged from side to side and reach many plants by placing the hose in one place only. This is not advisable though, unless the ground has sufficient slope to keep the water from seeping nearly all in one place. Unless proper care is taken you will find the water has reached down several feet at the nozzle of the hose and barely a few inches at the end of the ditch. Watch this and move the hose when necessary. One of the long lawn sprinklers turned down low is a very satisfactory method of irrigating between rows.

Most of us over-irrigate our lawns. The roots of the lawn grass do not grow deep and it is unnecessary to wet the soil much below the roots. If we get the soil too wet it is an injury to most plants and is as bad as not enough water. Soil should have good drainage and the subsoil of a garden is as important as the surface soil. Especially is this the case in a lawn. If the subsoil is adobe it will retain the moisture and also prevent the fertilizer being washed through the soil below the roots where it will not benefit the lawn. In a subsoil of that nature one should be particularly careful not to over-water.

Irrigating may be done at any hour. Sprinkling should be done at evening or in the night. Sprinkling is very beneficial to the plants themselves. Wash the dust and cobwebs off your shrubs. Many insect pests will be kept down by sprinkling the plants with a stream with some pressure. Dead leaves and leaves ready to drop, may be removed by the jet of water and the plant made more sightly. Plants sprinkled in the heat of the sun are generally injured by the process. There are, of course, some exceptions to this rule. The begonia, for instance, will be injured by allowing water to remain on its leaves and when sprinkled so as to dry quickly will be benefited.

After a hot and sultry day, when we water the parched plants drooping from the burning sun and when we see them recuperate we enjoy the refreshing water almost as much as the plants themselves as they raise their downcast foliage and seem to thank us. And when after irrigating we note how the different shrubs pick up, blossom anew and seem to pour out their gratitude on the care bestowed, we feel well repaid for the attentions we have given.

Keep watch for Monthly Meeting Dates & Places

Indiscriminate Use of Plants

By P. D. BARNHART, Pasadena



NOWHERE in the United States of America is the indiscriminate use of plants so extensively practiced as in California, especially the south half of the state. From San Francisco to San Diego, the coastal section of which is congenial to a greater diversity of the subjects of the vegetable kingdom than any other section of the country; the Gulf States, including Florida, not excepted.

Java, Madagascar, the tropics of Africa and of America, and the arid countries of all the world have contributed of their sylvia and of their flora to the adornment of public parks and private estates, and in ninety-five per cent of the planting done, plants from arid regions are mixed with those whose native habitat is deluged with rain part of the time, and the atmosphere saturated with moisture all of the time. To be specific, therefore helpful to gardeners who have a desire to learn, mention will be made of a few subjects, familiar to most folks who plant trees, vines and shrubs.

Poinsettias, Lantanas, Verbena, Montana, the shrubby native poppy, Dendromecon, Cistus, a family of plants known as "Rock Rose," Rosemary, Myrtus Communis, the classic myrtle of southern Europe, the Bottle Brush tribe of plants, our fuchsia flowered gooseberry, Capparis rupestris—why this plant is not in general cultivation in this southland is one of the mysteries of floriculture—these and a host of other subjects that might be named are drouth resistant, and should never be planted with such things as magnolias, elm, maple, hibiscus, bananas, caladiums, all of which require plenty of water for their development. If the first named class is watered freely they do one of two things, grow to wood and leaves instead of flowering freely, or die because of the excess moisture. Death is the fate of dendromecon, and the gooseberry.

Casimiroa edulis—the "Zapote blanco" of Mexico, if grown dry makes a beautiful tree; if watered freely, it is sure to become so willowy that it is not self supporting, and of all abused trees the Italian cypress is the most so by well meaning but badly informed "landscape architects." It is generally planted in lawns, and along driveways where it also receives an excessive amount of water and the unfortunate tree, forced by the moisture, grows so soft, and weak that to be kept in shape it must be tied together with baling wire, and held in an upright position with strong iron or wooden support.

There is a group of such on a large private place in Pasadena which are kept in an upright position by the use of two inch galvanized iron pipe, on another place, a greater number, are kept straight with the aid of 4x4 redwood posts. There is a law prohibiting cruel treatment to animals, there should be one penalizing the man or the woman who plants an Italian cypress in wet ground.

Another unwise use of trees is to plant the beautiful Cedrus deodara in the parkings of city streets. This stately and magnificent tree should have at least twenty feet space for development, twice that amount would be better, if it is to appear in all its beauty when fifty years old. In very truth there is no conifer adapted to such location, unless the lower branches are cut away, and of all unsightly subjects, Conifers grown that way are the most so, except where they are grown en-masse on an acre or more of ground.

Phoenix Canariensis is another unfortunate subject when it falls into the hands of the inconsiderate tree planter who is without discrimination. The most stately of all palms, when given fifty feet space in which to spread its top. It, too, is frequently used as a city street tree, and planted in a three or four foot parkway, and when it begins to grow, the foliage is bound up like a sheaf of wheat to prevent it from blocking up the sidewalk.

Poor tree, when it would throw out its feathery foliage in wide sweeps of graceful curves, and display its matchless beauty, is made to look like a huge and dilapidated fly killer.

The purpose of this article is to get gardeners to **think**, rather than to make out a planting list to **guide** them in their work, and if but fifty readers of the subscription list of California Garden be led to **study** the habit and the character of the members of the vegetable kingdom they cultivate, we shall have a more beautiful California in the future than we have at the present time, and the time and labor spent in the writing thereof will not have been in vain.

OBSERVATIONS

The Chemist, reference to whom was made last month in your article on "Care of the Rose," who contradicts the idea of the heat of the sun converting a certain amount of sulphur which is applied to trees and plants into "fumes," which are fatal, not alone to the fungi which attracts vegetation to their damage, if not to their death, but to red

spider as well, has yet something to learn in the practical things of life. If his sense of smell is normal and he will stroll in a garden or an orchard on a sunny day, where the mineral has been applied, he will soon be convinced of the error of his theories.

It is amazing to "laymen" who have learned lessons in the school of hard knocks, and of expensive experience, to read the theories of the scientific chaps who attempt to enlighten their benighted brethren. The "scientists" are an indispensable lot of fellows to the development of this old world; physically, and mentally, but they do get off wrong, very frequently, in their deductions and conclusions, and the aforesaid Chemist, will have a hard job to convince a rosarian that sulphur is not a fungicide, when applied to his plants in the open, or to the heating pipes in his glass house.

A word relative to this substance may be helpful to the gardener who will use it. The cheap grade which costs about three cents a pound is quite as effective as the refined article sold by druggists at twenty cents. A bellows made for the purpose of applying it should be one of the implements of every well equipped garden. It may also be applied by using a sack made of cheese cloth. There is no necessity of covering a plant with the stuff to such an extent that the subject treated will look yellow.

Vineyardists throw it on by the handful, but no gardener would care to have his place painted yellow.

While on the question to some extent of the treatment of the rose, I may as well add a few words relative to a little green worm that relishes the tender buds, before they show color. There is no method of reaching this pest other than by hand, and when the disbudding is done, its life may be crushed out before damage is done. Some gardeners grow roses for a show in the garden, and pick off the faded flowers only. In that case the cluster of buds must be gone over daily and the little worms put out of business with thumb and finger.

I hear some readers say: "Who wants to bother growing flowers if they require so much attention." Permit me to say that no great excellence is obtained without great labor, moreover, if men and women of leisure would turn their attention to growing flowers, and spend the time picking rose bugs, and worms off rose bushes, spraying them with insecticides, working up the soil in which they grow, that they now waste playing cards, dancing the tango, attending moving picture shows, and other wicked ways in which they waste time, the divorce courts would have less to do, and the public would be spared seeing the scandalous things about them in the daily papers.

Satan always and everywhere finds mischief for idle hands to do, therefore I say, thwart the purposes of the devil, by growing fruits, flowers and vegetables. To grow them to perfection will require the best thought as well as the greatest amount of energy one can put into the vocation.

Rose Show Time

Naturally, the rose show to be held in the Maryland Hotel, April 27 and 28, will be occupying the attention of rosarians this month, more particularly as to the best treatment for the best blooms on those dates. It is useless to waste time mourning over its being too early or too late. It will be both for everybody according to variety and these dates have been fixed according to the best judgment of the Directors of the Floral Association, guided by the opinions of all the growers they could conveniently contact. So much for those who will start to have themselves excused when invited to the feast. It is much pleasanter to turn to what those who simply wish to do what they can, unmindful of results, should do between now and then. Probably it is going to be too warm for real rose weather and it is already too dry if irrigation has not been practised, therefore irrigate right away and thoroughly. If your bushes are few and you basin them, fill twice with plain water and once again with a handful of

nitrate of soda thrown in, or some liquid fertilizer. It is too late to get action from stable manure or any other kind not immediately soluble. If you have some available stable manure it will help to throw it in the basin and let the water percolate through it, the strawy portion will act as a mulch and be there when the next watering comes which should be every week till the show. The grower of just a few bushes should always win from the large grower as the extra care possible should more than offset the greater quantity from which to select.

The buds that are now quite small are the ones for the show blooms so it is not well to let the earlier ones sap too much of the bushes' vitality. Don't let any of these stay on the bush beyond the bud stage and cut them with generous stalks. Disbud carefully and aim for perfection in a few rather than mediocrity in many. Watch for the worm and the rust that corrupts and do as has been told you s'teen times already in these columns.



Monthly Excursion Through Exposition Grounds



By G. R. GORTON



THE majority of visitors to the Botanical Building are impressed more by the masses of color than any other feature; still it would seem as if the collection of ferns were entitled to consideration from those who have the necessary time to observe them.

Entering the building from the front, and turning to the right in the lath section, are specimens of *Gymnogramme sulphurea*, Sulphur Fern, so named because of the sulphur-like spore on the backs of the fronds. On the left—across the walk from these, is a specimen of *Pteris inequalis*, with fronds very variable in character.

Next to this is *Cyrtomium Rockfordianum*, one of the Holly Ferns—a very interesting genus, in appearance not in the least fern-like, but strongly suggesting the holly whose name it bears, very fresh and attractive in appearance and useful for purposes of contrast in fern plantings.

Still turning to the right, just before entering the east wing of the building, the attention is directed to *Pteris serrulata*, var. *ouvrardi*, reposing in the shelter of a tall *Dracaena indivisa*. On the south side in the center bed of this wing the most conspicuous ferns are the several *Dicksonia squarrosa*, Australian Tree Ferns.

These were grown to their present height in their native country, and were then uprooted, packed, and, with about the same elaborate care which characterizes the handling of railroad ties, were shipped bare-rooted to San Diego. In spite of this consideration which was shown them, several of them lived, and now grace our Botanical Building. Nearby, adjoining a *Phoenix roebelinii*, are one or two *Pteris flabellata*, rather an unusual *Pteris*—and *Cyrtomium falcatum*, similar to *C. Rockfordianum* mentioned above, excepting that the fronds are longer and about one-half as wide—not quite as holly-like as its relative.

Having circumnavigated this portion of the house and returning to the circular bed under the dome in the center of the building, one finds several specimens of *Lomaria gibba*, a smaller genus of tree ferns, and very attractive; *Alsophila Australis*, another Australian tree fern, and *Sitalobium cicutarium*, these last two—side by side—furnishing an excellent opportunity to note that the two ferns are not as similar as appears when viewed separately. On the north side of this bed, opposite the entrance to the glass sec-

tion is a group of *Blechnum occidentale*—not easily distinguished from the *Lomarias*.

On the right hand—as the west wing is entered—the corner is ornamented by *Woodwardia Americana*, our own California Brake, which abounds in certain portions of the back country and transplants very nicely if handled with reasonable care.

Passing on to the extreme west end of the building, the attention will be arrested by a very fine specimen of *Alsophila Australis* enshrined in the arch together with other ferns, palms, etc. *Alsophilas* ought to be more grown—where sufficient space is available, but allowance must be made for their enormous spread or they will be crowded and the effect spoiled. Properly grown, however, as a background for smaller ferns, begonias, cinerarias and cyclamen in season, the result will be all that could be desired. Near the southeast corner of the center bed are one or two *Polypodium Mandaianum* or *glaucom*—as you prefer—the main difference between the several varieties of this type being financial rather than botanical. One of the interesting features of this fern is the curious arrangement of the spore, resembling diminutive brass buttons on a gray coat.

The glass house contains its share of the collection, including some excellent specimen plants of different species of ferns. The oval bed on the east side of the house contains more *A. Australis*, while underneath, Club Moss—*Selaginella denticulata*, lends a charming touch as a ground cover. On the bench along the side is *Nephrolepis elegantissima*, much ruffled and crested, and, when well grown, very decorative. Very distinct from these species are the two sword ferns, *N. Tuberosa* and *N. Exaltata* which are to be found together on the opposite side of the Conservatory along the west wall. In the former, the fronds are narrower, segments of the fronds are both narrower and shorter and of a darker shade of green than *N. Exaltata*. It is from the latter the crested types are bred, but it does not need the ruffles and crests to make it an attractive fern, as witness several immense hanging baskets in different portions of the house.

On the same side of the building is a choice specimen of the Bird Nest Fern, *Asplenium nidus-avis*, which in its habitat grows to such proportions that a full-grown man may be concealed in the "Nest", which is merely the fibre at the base of the fronds. Its resemblance to a bird's nest gives the fern

its name. The fronds of this species are upwards of five inches in width and except for the spore on the back bear no especial resemblance to the conventional type of fern.

Borne aloft on the portion of the steel structure south of the pool is another "un-fernlike" fern—*Platynerium grande*, the Moose Horn Fern, (nothing to do with Bu'l Moose, T. R., etc.). A decided resemblance to the Antlers of the Moose makes this fern conspicuous among the other plants also making their home on the same steel column. One characteristic which distinguishes the Moose and Elk Horn Ferns from most others is their epiphytal habit, growing as they do on either live or dead tree trunks or smaller support, sustenance solely to be obtained from the moss in which they are rooted. Several species of *P. Alcorni* (in which, however, the resemblance is not nearly as perfect) may be seen on the column rising out of the center of the pool.

Near by, supported on a pedestal so that its fronds hang out over the water, is a very typical specimen of *Goniophlebium subauriculatum* the fronds of which are as long as its name, frequently attaining six or eight feet in length.

About the center of the bench along the west side is a specimen of one of the species of the Japanese Fern Ball, *Davallia Canariensis*, while near the northwest corner of the oval bed on the same side of the house is a specimen of another species of the genus, in this case being *Davallia lucida*. On the steel column at the extreme south end of the center of the house is a specimen of *Lygodium Japonicum*, the climbing fern, really quite a dainty little plant twining its way upward on a support whose very strength serves to attenuate the delicate foliage of this very attractive species.

The above is by no means a comprehensive account of the fern collection in the Botanical Building, and a careful observer will find, scattered through both the lath house and conservatory, many species not mentioned, for instance, there are many other species of *Pteris* such as *P. Victoriae* with the narrow almost grass-like fronds with silver variegation, *P. Tremula*, almost a tree fern in habit; and the same is true of the other genera.

The gardens of Montezuma have been completely reconstructed, but in the language of the poet—that is another story.

Vegetable Gardens

By Walter Birch



THE call of the garden is strong this beautiful weather and people with the time to spend in the garden are to be congratulated, although all of us can get a little scratching done anyway. The sunny days soon harden the surface, if you do not keep it stirred, but if you have not neglected to do this the abundant rains which we have had will keep the ground well stored with moisture for some time to come, and it will only need a good sprinkling or surface irrigation to meet the moisture below the surface.

In the vegetable garden you can still plant peas, although it is about the end of the season for them, but just the time for beans. Last year the crop was so light that the seed of some of the best varieties is hard to get now. The Stringless Green Pod and Golden Wax are two of the best to plant, and Burpee's Improved Bush Lima is hard to beat. April is a good month to get out lots of vegetable plants—cabbage, egg plant, peppers, tomatoes, celery and sweet potatoes. Have your ground well spaded up and manured and plant in rows from two to three feet apart, so as to leave room for cultivating between.

Plant your tomatoes about four feet apart, egg plant about three, peppers two and sweet potatoes eighteen inches apart. You can still plant rhubarb roots. The strawberry variety is a favorite with the grocers.

In flowering bulbs the gladiolus, tuberous rooted begonias and dahlias are all in season. Your lawn will now be much improved by a good dressing of pulverized cow manure or Armour's Lawn and Garden Fertilizer. Apply the latter at the rate of about 100 pounds to 800 square feet, and then turn your sprinkler on and wash it into the roots.

Deciduous fruit tree planting is now pretty well over, but April and May are two of the best months for setting out orange, lemon and grape fruit trees, also limes; and the time is ideal for planting the avocado, or alligator pear, which is a tree that is gaining in favor all the time. It is a very handsome evergreen and will do well in any protected location where the soil is good. The fruit is most valuable as a food, being highly nutritious, containing about 20 per cent of oil or fat and can be prepared for table use in a number of different ways.

The Lath House

By ALFRED D. ROBINSON



It is not sure that Mrs. Waite will get that article on Begonias ready for this number, but she has been quite humbly approached and did not refuse so there is good hope. Incidentally the writer of this visited the Waite garden and all that therein is. No, that is incorrect; only a portion was seen and the rest is in reserve as a special treat. To go the Japanese bantam was formally introduced and one of his consorts had laid two eggs in a box of Mr. Waite's seedling begonias. One was still there, but a Blue Jay had sampled the other and derisively left the shell in plain view. The lath house is so full of begonias that they fairly bulge out of the sides and top and one progresses through it sideways only if you are thin. Begonias, there are a million of them and more coming. A year ago Mr. Waite caught the fever from his good lady, who has always been infected, and said, "Let us have begonias," and it was like the orthodox account of the creation. Begonias became. They spread out of the lath house, into cupboards, upon tables, into frames on the ground, and, as has been before stated, into chicken nests. And there was not any room before they began to flood in this way; every spare inch had two things competing for its occupation and neither would give in. There is a crinum that rivals a bamboo clump; a Papa Gontier rose that rambles from tree to shrub and has an eye on the begonias; and the latest comer was leaning against a tree trunk having had to come in leaning in order to get in at all. The writer is willing to risk something on a bet that if you have in mind a growth that you knew back somewhere that you have missed here, you will find it at the Waite's. It is not known what kind of a picture these disjointed remarks will conjure up in the reader's mind, but the irritation so to speak came from visiting the most delightful real garden in the country. First it is old enough to be romantic, things have asserted themselves; they are not all trimmed into their particular niches, the paths are not laid out with surveying instruments by an expert or designed by a self-appointed natural architect. They grew, and that is what everything in a garden should do. It is not properly understood when visitors can go, nor whether they are welcome to look over the fence, so the exact location of this oasis in a desert of

"built to orders" is not given. If you may go the Waites are the ones to say so.

A lady of education, means, and apparently good intelligence, said recently, "If I build again I shall keep out 20 per cent for a lath house. It seems to me that to live in an out-of-door country and spend your last cent on a house you should keep out of as much as possible is not sane." The lath house is an established fact; let us develop it. It should not be so small. Additional expense in building is confined to the roof chiefly and the garden, not merely a few things, is going to move inside. These remarks occur because into one lath house are going some lilacs that have made a brave effort to bloom outside in the heat and drought this year. One bloom will be a scented delight for days. An English holly is already there in the shadiest place and seems inclined to say Thank you.

Don't let your lath house dry out. It is economy of water and energy, in both plants and yourselves, to maintain a decent degree of moisture. Particularly will potted stuff dry out quickly these days of the tourists' delight. You will remember reference to those large flowered clematis. Two have bloomed a double white Duchess of Edinburgh and a single dream in pinky mauve without a label. A good lady under emotional strain cried when she looked at it, it was so beautiful. This is not to say there will be any blooms or plants next year. Even if there are not, the present bloom was worthy of the effort and trifling investment. Another visitor from the South, the real South, not Southern California, came when the wistaria hung like a lavender mist in the air and raved about an Allamanda to companion it. Miss Sessions was present and said Allamandas did not like us, but the lady was unconvinced and left with a mental vision of the lavender wistaria in the arms of a yellow Allamanda. The same visitor pined for a stephanotis and these can and should be grown.

After this, visitors to this particular lath house will have to yield up their names and occupations, for last week an elderly gentleman floated in by modest personal solicitation without announcing himself and was proudly shown a Boston fern. He afterwards was identified as a Mr. Sargent of the Boston Arboretum, who has the young fronds for breakfast every morning when at home.

Rose Show—Maryland Hotel—April 27th & 28th

Planting Dahlia Tubers

By A. D. ROBINSON

BOTH you and I, my reader, have had a rest from those eulogistic articles about the Dahlia and I trust you are in mind to patiently submit to the next series of which this is the first.

Mid April is the time for the planting of tubers; green plants so-called, which are rooted cuttings, will come along a couple of weeks or so later. I am so firmly of a mind that dahlias with us should be planted in a basin or sunken bed where they can be mulched and watered without disturbing the fine roots that grow just beneath the surface, that I am basing all my theory and practice upon such a system. When first planted there is no need of these basins; in fact, a level planting is advisable so that cultivation can be practiced till these surface roots begin to form, which is not before the plants are almost ready to bud. Promiscuously placed and shaped basins are apt to be an eyesore, so why not make a virtue of necessity and plant in evenly spaced rows so that when the mulching time comes square basins can be thrown up establishing lines running parallel to the rows. On a grade this would allow of irrigating from basin to basin, though I do not approve this plan as it over-waters the first end and is apt to skimp the latter. This matter of basining is taken up first because the planting must be made with it in view. In planting, dig a large enough hole to comfortably accommodate the tubers and as much larger as you choose, covering with from four to six inches of soil. The lighter the soil, the deeper can be the planting. Don't put fertilizer in the hole with the tuber. The ideal condition is that of a plot that has been heavily fertilized the previous year. If you are going to use stakes place them when you plant so as not to drive them into the tubers later on. Most of you know that I dislike stakes and have found that I can grow most varieties successfully without them by pinching back the early growth till the main stem becomes heavy and strong.

For best blooms very large clumps should not be planted without division. They insist upon sending up numerous canes that soon get in one another's way. Dahlias are unlike potatoes: they do not sprout from the eyes

in the tuber itself, but from the crown or junction of the tubers with the main stem, it is therefore necessary to retain a portion of this crown in dividing. Most large clumps have two or more stalks from last year's head and each of these normally separates into a plant by itself; but where there is only one big stalk this can be split into two or more sections with its adhering tubers. In spacing remember a well grown dahlia wants at least four feet by six and six by six would be better.

It is getting late to talk about varieties, and this is moreover a difficult subject, for named dahlias are legion and in almost every color there are many good ones. It has been suggested in these articles that in small gardens only a limited range of color with no swearing should be planted and it still seems the feasible way to help selection in such a multitude of offerings. It must be insisted that in beds one variety massed is the most effective treatment, though along a walk where close inspection seems to be invited a collection of varieties may prove interesting. Dahlias are particularly effective in front of and among shrubbery; they also form a very good hedge effect to separate divisions in a garden. In fact, in England they are most frequently found dividing beds in the vegetable garden.

For a good bedding variety it is necessary to have a habit of sturdy, not too tall, growth with many blooms properly distributed over the plant. *Souvenir de Gustav Doazon* is ideal and *Minnie Bergle* is also in favor. The latter was extensively planted in San Francisco last year. With some apology but little hope once again the great merit of *Geisha* the red and gold peony flowered beauty is remarked.

I have just heard of a sad experience that happened in our midst last year. A certain garden had collected a choice lot of dahlias in tuber form and found the stock between arrival and planting mysteriously but surely growing less and less. The agency finally eventuated as a Mexican laborer who was lurching luxuriously on the tubers. This is merely related as a warning of a dangerous combination.

Does your neighbor or *other* friends grow roses?
Show them the Rose Show Premium List

Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD



HAVE a lot of pansies this year and am thoroughly enjoying them; not merely by looking at them once in awhile and reflecting that they are twice as numerous and half as large again as those next door, but spending lots of odd ten minutes visiting with the pansy faces and thinking utterly futile unprofitable delightful thoughts about them.

Only yesterday I was thus idling away time, that maybe should have been employed hoeing weeds, when the real significance of the term "pansy faces" came home to me and I saw that character and race were clearly defined and all the gamut of emotions displayed. It started with a German, whose brown beard upon a yellow ground parted in the middle and swept to either side with singular ferocity. Right close by was a sandy Scotchman upon a long neck, and in front a smiling Oriental with slanting eyebrows. I was clearly frowned upon, laughed at, and cajoled. There were black mysteries and virgin white innocence, the purple flush of royalty and the modest brown of the man in the ranks. As I looked, bodies formed to my inner eye below these speaking faces. That small angular one on an attenuated neck grew out of an old maid body, whose flat breast never knew the nestling infant and whose left elbow rivalled Katisha's. The round full one, with fat contentment oozing out of its ample lines, with hardly any stalk, must sit atop the ample stomach with good capon lined. The delicate brown with waving edge belongs to a supple young form of budding womanhood. The fierce bearded one with heavy eyebrows cocked at the ends, betrays the square shoulder and regular gait of the trained soldier. Doubtless when I have had time I shall find the baker and the candlestick maker, Mother Goose and Aladdin, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, and if I am lucky, which means good, perhaps Charlie Chaplin.

Never again will a pansy be to me a mere delight of color arrangement; it will be a convention, or a party and on special occasions a meeting of old pals. It must not be thought, however, that these elysian moments of sheer insanity can be forced to order. As I write this I visited my pansies to make them give me copy, and every face set in expressionless disdain. The whole bed said, "today you are not of us, we are no moving picture show, we value things for what they are, not what they seem. Go back to your typewriter and tell those folks, who have so little worth while to do that they read you, that the entry to our charmed circle is through the heart and

not the head and we are so privileged as to be unable to understand your misleading speech and therefore are spared much. The hot wind passed over the bed and every pansy head bowed in assent and I left.

There is one pansy plant that has the worst of location. It grows where it gets more than its share of wind and less of water, but it occupies an important pivotal station and without it the bed would be unfinished. Does it complain and quit? No, it sends up twice as many flowers as any other; small, of course, and often showing the stress of life, but it keeps on trying. I call it Albert of Belgium.

I have just sauntered across the neighboring hillside that was swept by fire last fall. It is a garden of the gods, the little modest ones, that work without noise and unsuspected. In perfectly arranged patches, whose perfection of placing lies in their absolute irregularity *Collinsia* brightens a whole slope, and one wonders, or at least I do, what agency, if it were not the little gods before suggested, governed the planting so that it became a hillside full of feature instead of a mere mass of color on end. Earlier in the year shooting stars did the same trick and doubtless something else will follow. Across the canyon, which is the one up which the Point Loma boulevard climbs from Roseville, the *Encelia Californica* dusts the hills with golden nuggets. But everywhere now our wondrous wild flora is in court array and it is only mentioned here in the hope that some careless one may open eyes usually shut to such things and realize what it means to our land in attractiveness and perhaps help forward the preservation of this asset where possible, at least a hesitation before condemning its removal in the name of improvement.

What You Can Do to Help the Show

Chiefly decide at once that it is your business to be represented at this show by something. Just stop and think that somebody has been troubling to get out this monthly guide for you and the rest of the folks for nearly seven years without a cent of compensation and you will find that you owe considerable for wages that your active interest can amply pay.

Why should you not be a self constituted committee to canvas the rosebushes in your neighborhood and see they are represented at the show.

Who Planted Plaza Palms?

At last "Yorick" has said something in the San Diego Union with which California Garden is in hearty accord. When he calls the world's attention to such worth-while people as our own Miss Kate Sessions, we applaud vigorously. His comment is published in full:

The palms of San Diego! Can't you hear the old mission bells chiming in those liquid vowels? They are our oldest inhabitants. Two of them out at Old Town were planted 147 years ago by Padre Serra. Even the ancient olives that cluster so lovingly under the crumbling walls of the Mission of San Diego de Alcalá are not so old as the palms that sway to the morning wind in the shadow of Presidio Hill and bend to the caress of the western zephyrs when the clouds are a golden canopy over Punta de Loma. There are only two of these palms—the last survivors of the first pioneer age of California. Within the memory of the youngest inhabitant of San Diego there were three; but one night a wind came in from the sea and laid the tallest prostrate; somebody carried it away for firewood to burn under a pot of chile con carne. After a century and a half, to this base use came the product of the good padre's planting! It was the unconscious sacrilege of ignorance, and so far pardonable; but who shall pardon the indifference of a higher intelligence that permitted the sacrilege? Other civilizations venerate their ancestry. Other civilizations far older than ours preserve their historical trees in museums and temples. Imagine the oaks of Dodona smoldering to seethe a kid for a Greek helot!

Planted by Father Serra

But what of the surviving Serra palms at Old Town? I haven't made my pilgrimage to them lately, so I cannot tell you whether they are still swaying to the morning wind or bending to the caress of the ocean breeze when the sun goes down behind Loma's bastioned crest. I presume, however, that an opulent municipality, proud of its history, has not neglected these relics of its century old beginning. Rome, you know, preserved in enduring bronze the effigies of the wolves that suckled the brothers who founded the city. No doubt Padre Serra's palms are fenced with marble and onyx memorialized with a brass tablet inscribed with their history and a fitting eulogy of the good father who turned the kindly earth for the seeding. I have not seen these palms for a long time, so it is possible that San Diego's city council or San Diego's manager of operations has decreed a beautiful little garden to surround the dying roots of San Diego's oldest citizens. There are many such gardens around the roots of famous trees in other lands. And San Diego is a civilized

city with a cultured sentiment for its historic associations and relics. I must make my pilgrimage to the old palms that I may confirm my faith in San Diego's reverence for the things that are hers and hers alone.

A Tablet to Kate Sessions

There are other palms in San Diego, some of them half a century old. The palm seems to have readily adapted itself to the San Diego environment of soil and climate. And the elder generation of San Diegans seem to have loved the companionship of the palm as the Arab loved it; for in every garden of the town as it was "before the boom" a palm was planted; and it thrived, and the children of that elder generation played in the shade of the tree their fathers had planted; and grew to manhood with an affection for the sturdily graceful companion of the childish pastimes. San Diego ought to love its palms. In the city plaza is a group of palms which for grace and beauty are unsurpassed anywhere on earth; not in Biskra, far famed for its clustered palm trees that beckon the caravans across the sands of the garden of Allah; not in any seraglio park of romance-haunted cities from "silken Samarkand to the cedars of Lebanon;" not anywhere on India's coral strand, or fringing the sandy reaches of atolls in summer seas; not on the Latin coasts that lie under the midnight radiance of Canopus, or in African depths where savage men gaze in awe upon the passing wonder of Capricorn; nowhere is there a company of palms like unto these which Kate Sessions planted for the glory of San Diego. Yet who knows that Kate Sessions planted these palms? Not the tourist on his way eagerly curious to learn the home history of the places he visits; not the schoolboy poring over books of ancient lore and longing for the free out-of-doors where the palms are dancing with the west wind in the sunshine; not to the smug burgher seeking profit in the marts of haggle and barter; not to the dancing girls in the cafes and cabarets where they eat and drink to the accompaniment of ragtime coon tunes; not to the young men who dance with the dancing girls when the "entertainers" are not entertaining; not to the culture women of the culture clubs; not to the busy politicians plotting their plots; not to the dreamers dreaming of cities beautiful; not to citizens of long leisure who foregather under the Plaza palms that Kate Sessions planted, to talk of distant wars and the "conditions of society" and the state of the weather; not to any of these is Kate Sessions known, nor the loving thoughts that were in her heart when she gave these palms to a city that has forgotten her and her gift. Oh, the

Continued on Page 14

The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor
G. T. Keene, Manager

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The San Diego Floral Association

Main Office, Point Loma, California
Secretary's Office, 727 E St., San Diego, Cal.

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Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

Subscription, \$1.00 per year

ADVERTISING RATES

One Page	\$10.00	Half Page	\$5.00
Quarter Page	2.50	Eighth Page	1.50

Advertising Copy should be in by the 25th of each Month

Elite Printing Co. 727 E St., San Diego

REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of The San Diego Floral Association on the third Tuesday of every month at 8:00 p. m.

April 18—(a) "Dahlias." (b) "Irrigation." With Mrs. Wm. Simson, Glenartney Station, Point Loma.

May 16—(a) "Lath-house." (b) Begonias." With Mrs. Herbert D. Field, 3026 Date Street.

June—Date to be announced. Annual meeting and Election of Officers.

July 18—(a) "Ferns." (b) "Fall Blooming Plants." With Mrs. W. L. Frevert, 3535 First Street.

August 15—(a) "Violets." (b) "Planting Seeds for Winter Blooms." With Mrs. I. D. Webster, 1028 Thirty-second St.

OUT-DOOR MEETINGS

First Tuesday of the month in the afternoon:

April 4—Miss Sessions, Pacific Beach.

May 9—Mrs. O. E. M. Howard, National City.

June 6—Mrs. Alfred D. Robinson, Rosecroft, Point Loma.

July 11—Mrs. Erskine J. Campbell, Point Loma.

August 1—Mrs. Charles W. Darling, Marcellita, Chula Vista.

On Soledad Mountain



AN out-door meeting of the Floral Association was held Tuesday afternoon, April 11, on the top of Soledad Mountain, above Pacific Beach. It was made a sort of dedication of the new road, recently completed, and eight pine trees, grown and donated by Miss Kate Sessions, were planted. The first five were Torrey Pines and the others were Pinus Sabiniana, the Mt. Diablo big-cone pine.

Alfred D. Robinson, president of the association, put the first one in the ground, and the next three were by pioneer ladies, Mrs. A. Blochman, Mrs. John Snyder and Mrs. P. M. Johnson. Wheeler J. Bailey planted one, Mrs. O. E. M. Howard, of National City and Miss Margaret Gilman, Principal of the Bishop's School, the next two, and the next was by two little boys, Theodore McLaughlin and John Pugh, and little Miss Cobb, of Pacific Beach. The last was by Mrs. Frederick Beane, of Maine, "The Pine Tree State." The trees will be protected by stakes and wire netting, and the planters are expected to take an interest in them until they are able to care for themselves.

Earlier in the day, the Women's Reading Club, of Pacific Beach, planted two groups of Eucalyptus Viminalis, at the Pacific Beach end of the new road. This eucalypt grows large and is very decorative.

Soledad Mountain is 842 feet above sea level, and is the highest point in the immediate vicinity of San Diego. The view is well worth the trip to the top, which is made by easy grades and over good roads which the united efforts of Frank and Kate Sessions and Wheeler J. Bailey caused to be constructed.

Twelve machines took sixty people to the Mountain and on the way back stopped at Miss Sessions' gardens at Soledad Terrace, where several informal talks were given.

The Plaza Palms

Continued from Page 13

shame of it! Not a word in brass or bronze or on marble pedastaled on granite and onyx to commemorate the gift or the giver! But it shall not be so forever. If the rich and ambitious city of San Diego will not pay this tribute to Kate Sessions I will. And thus will I perpetuate another memory that otherwise would go down to oblivion unhonored and unsung.

O'Kane, W. C. Injurious insects; how to recognize and control them. 1912.

Ballou, H. A. Insect pests of the lesser Antilles. 1912.

Beutenmuller, W. Manuel of American and European insects. 1906.

The Flower Garden

Miss Mary Matthews



WORK planned for last month can be carried on through April if the weather continues favorable. Get rid of the weeds and what quantities of them there are this season. Put your soil in condition to get full benefit from any late rains we may have.

Any bulbs that you may have coming into bloom should be looked after each day. Where the bloom stalks are not too far advanced a good watering with nitrate of soda will be a very material help. It is not too late to put in late blooming things, cannas, tube roses, tigridias, etc., can go in this month and give good blooms late into the fall. Japanese anemones, which are fall blooming, do well if divided and put out now, in a north border along with the ferns and begonias. They will not stand the full sun. These anemones are not bulbous, but fibrous rooted. Their foliage is large and decorative so that altogether they are a very handsome plant in the border. Keep the asters well watered and work in a little bone meal around each plant every now and then. Chrysanthemums can be put out for early blooms and cuttings taken from choice kinds will give blooms later on.

Watch out for snails and cut worms around your choice delphiniums. Before you know it they will have eaten into the crown and destroyed the plants. Campanulas will also need the same care. Some growers advise removing all foliage at the base as this is apt to be a cool, leafy retreat for insects after their night's work.

This is a favorable time to renew bamboo plantings, papyrus, cyperus and any of the water loving decorative plants. Around choice clumps of bamboo work the soil carefully, taking care not to injure the new roots, and use a good, large handful of nitrate of soda to each plant. I notice that Mr. Myers, collector for the plant introduction bureau, at Washington, has returned from China, bringing with him thirty new bamboos—some of them climbing and some very dwarf shrubs—but at the same time the government is sending out a warning that a deadly foe has appeared in some places in the form of a rust that attacks the canes and soon destroys a whole clump. Speaking of new things there are some fine, new shrubs that are, or ought to be good for this locality, being offered by dealers in this sort of thing. One especially that has proven all that is claimed for it is "Philadelphus Virginalis," a double flowered mock orange, very free blooming and very fragrant.

For one who likes to read of these things, whether they grow them all or not, there has just been published a book, "My Shrubs," by Eden Phillpotts, which tells of various rare and curious things.

The various Iris will be in their prime from now on and should not suffer for water at any time. The beardless group like to stand with their feet in water while blooming. They are best separated just after the bloom stalks have withered. Any perennials or annuals still in the seed boxes ought to go into the ground now—be sure and put the dirt bands around them. These are very easily made at home with strips from paste board boxes.

Dahlias and tuberous begonias will need attention this month, but will be treated of by experts in special articles in this month's magazine.



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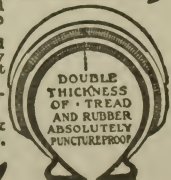
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The "KACKLE"



WE have published a nifty little magazine called The Kackle in which we have exposed almost indecently our thoughts about Barred Rocks and other matters. It contains items of fact, conjecture and fiction. It cost too much to print to give away, and we won't bother with its sale but that man Keene, who egged us on to do this thing, will furnish copies at ten cents each so long as there are any. Of course you understand it was printed for other lands, where the prophet of Rosecroft Barred Rocks is of some account, and before you read this the main issue is carrying the latest news to thousands of anxious Rockers. Your chance is only at the left overs.

We can't write more now being exhausted with our Kackle, and having talked a man out of \$15 for 30 eggs. Don't misunderstand; the trouble was to keep him from paying more. If you want the Kackle, hurry; if you want chicks or eggs, just say so.

P. S.—We can't give Keene's address as we never asked him to be sales agent for the Kackle.

Rosecroft Barred Rock Yards

Point Loma, Cal.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON, *Proprietor*

VENTILATION

Oxygen is the most important element in existence, for without it organic life would not be possible. If it were suddenly withdrawn from the atmosphere, human beings could only live for a very few minutes. It is the element which is of so much value in ventilation.

A point of practical importance is the securing to each individual of sufficient fresh air so that he may always have a plentiful supply of oxygen, and may be relieved of his waste products.

An adult man gives off about 0.6 cubic foot of carbon dioxide every hour. Hence in that time he raises the amount of carbon dioxide in 1,000 cubic feet of air from .04 per cent. (the normal amount in the atmosphere) to 0.1 per cent. He must therefore be supplied with 2,000 cubic feet of air per hour in order to keep the amount of carbon dioxide down to .07 per cent.

In order that the air may be easily renewed without giving rise to excessive draught, a certain amount of cubic space must be allotted to each man. Each adult should have in a room 1,000 cubic feet of space, and be supplied every hour with 2,000 to 3,000 cubic feet of air.—Pittsburgh Live Steam.

The San Diego County Farm Bureau has started a membership campaign, in the hope of increasing the membership to 2,000. A farm agent is to be added to the service of the bureau, whose duty it shall be to bring buyer and seller together and work a saving to both.

The people of San Diego, and particularly the housewives, are asked to take an interest in the "Women's Home Industry League" and the movement back of it, which aims to pledge our own people to buy San Diego made goods whenever possible. "The quickest way to get new industries, is to patronize those we already have," is the slogan on the window cards being displayed conspicuously. Inform yourselves of the goods made at home, and then insist that your grocer or merchant gives them to you.

If you will be able to assist in the work of preparation for the Rose Show, phone your name to Miss Rainford at the Flower Shop.

The climbing roses about town seem to be especially fine. Some porches are covered with hundreds of blooms.

Have you visited the rose gardens in Balboa park? One of the gardens is just north of the Laurel street entrance to the Exposition.

The tree planting celebration at East San Diego was carried out very successfully, with speeches and music as the principle features. Our little neighbor has set a fine example for the city and county to follow.

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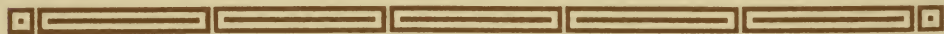
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